

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

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DECEMBER 2006

ARLB019 FCC releases long-awaited
"Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order

SB QST ARL ARLB019 ARLB019
FCC releases long-awaited "Omnibus"
Amateur Radio Report and Order

October 12, 2006

Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10, 2006. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the proposed changes in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released back in 2004. The FCC has:

- + expanded the phone subbands in the 75 and 40 meter bands;
- + permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
- + permitted the use of spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz;
- + permitted amateurs to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;
- + permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to

- receive their call sign in memoriam;
- + prohibited an applicant from filing more than one application for a specific vanity call sign;
 - + eliminated certain restrictions on equipment manufacturers;
 - + permitted Amateur Radio stations in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications;
 - + clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
 - + deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for RACES stations;
- and
- + deleted the requirement for public announcement of test locations and times.
- In addition, the FCC took several

(Continued on page 7)

Amateur Radio "Omnibus" Rules changes
to go into effect December 15

A little over a month after the Federal Communications Commission released the Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) to the public, a revised version appeared November 15 in the Federal Register < <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/E6-19189.pdf>>. The changes in the R&O will take effect Friday, December 15, at 12:01 AM EST, 30 days after its publication.

As expected, the Report & Order clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released last month: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use

RTTY/data emissions in the 7.075-7.100 MHz band.

Still to be resolved are three controversial aspects of the Proceeding:

* Expansion of the 75 meter phone band all the way down to 3600 kHz (thus reducing the privileges of General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees, who had RTTY/data privileges in the 80 meter band, and CW privileges of General and Advanced class licensees)

* The elimination of J2D emissions, data sent by modulating an SSB transmitter, of more than 500 Hz bandwidth. This will make PACTOR III at full capability illegal. Other digital modes effectively rendered illegal below 30 MHz include Olivia and MT63 (when operated at band-

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Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsss.org>



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

January 6, 2007, Waukesha, WI. 34th Annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. For information contact: www.warac.org, WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or Phil, W9NAW, (414) 425-3649 GPS coordinates: Latitude 43.03227, Longitude -88.23948

January 28, 2007. Mid-Winter Hamfest Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs. DuPage Expo., 4050 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL. Talk-In: 145.390 (PL 103.5). Contact: John Faber, WT9Y, PO Box QSL, Wheaton, IL 60189. Phone: 630-604-0157, Fax: 630-604-0157, Email: info@wheatonhamfest.org. <http://www.wheatonhamfest.org>

March 11, 2007. Sterling Rock Falls ARS. Challand Middle School, 1700 16th Avenue, Sterling, IL Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 114.8). Contact: Jack E. Stout, KR9Q, 1784 Mound Hill Road Sterling, IL 61081, Phone: 815-625-6185,

Email: jacksradio@hotmail.com <http://www.sterlinghamfest.com>

March 17, 2007. 16th Annual Equipment Auction Eau Claire ARC. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 West Grand Avenue, Eau Claire, WI. <http://www.ecarc.org/auction07.htm> Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 110.9). Contact: Jim Staatz, KI9H, W5414 Progressive Road, Tony, WI 54563-9695. Phone: 715-532-5903. Email: KI9H@arrl.net

March 24, 2007. Midwinter Madness 2007. Buffalo Civic Center, Calder Avenue, across from Airport, Buffalo, MN Robbinsdale ARC. Talk-In: 147.600/147.000. Contact: Jerry Dorf, N0FWG, PO Box 22613, Robbinsdale, MN 55422, Phone: 763-537-1722, Email: k0ltc@k0ltc.org <http://www.k0ltc.org>

March 30-31, 2007. AES SuperFest 2007. Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) 5710 West Goodhope Road Milwaukee, I 53223. Friday March 30 (2:30-7:00 p.m.) and Saturday March 31 (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Phone: 414-375-1162. <http://www.aesham.com> Contact: Ray Grenier, K9KHW. Phone: 414-375-1162. Email: ray@aesham.com

April 21, 2007, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt

Community Center, 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: w9hsy@execpc.com or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website www.qsl.net/mara.

June 2-3, 2007. Hamfest, Computer & Hobby Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, US Route 6 West, Peru Street, Princeton, IL. Starved Rock Radio Club, Talk-In: 146.955 (-600kHz) repeater (PL 103.5). Contact: Tom Chromzack, KC9EGB, PO Box 101, Tiskilwa, IL 61368, Phone: 815-646-4488, Fax: 815-646-4362, Email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com. <http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm>

June 10, 2007. 50th Annual Hamfest. DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, IL Six Meter Club of Chicago. Talk-In: 146.370/146.970 (PL 107.2). Contact: Joseph Gutwein, WA9RIJ, 6675 South Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559-3290, Phone: 708-442-4961 (24-hr infoline). Email: wa9rij@arrl.net <http://www.qsl.net/k9ona>

July 7, 2007, South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. e-mail ryatex@aol.com. Phone (414) 762-3235.

July 15, 2007 Aurora Central Catholic High School. 1255 Edgelawn Avenue, Aurora, IL Fox River Radio League, Talk-In: 147.210 MHz (PL 103.5 Hz). Contact: Dean Holste, KC9EOQ, 805 Laurel Drive Aurora, IL 60506, Phone: 630-966-8521 Fax: 630-879-0000. Email: hamfest@frrl.org <http://www.frrl.org>

August 11, 2007 Annual Swapfest, Eagle's Alps_3737 North 5th Street, Quincy, IL Western Illinois ARC, <http://www.w9awe.org> Talk-In: 147.030 +600 (PL 103.5 Hz). Contact: James Funk, N9JF, 2742 North 230th Avenue, Liberty, IL 62347, Phone: 217-336-4191. Email: n9jf@arrl.net

August 25-26 2007. Radio Expo 2007, Lake County Fairgrounds, US Route 45 & IL Route 120, Grayslake, IL. Chicago FM Club. Talk-In: 146.760 (PL 107.2). Contact: Michael Brost, WA9FTS, 5127 North Monterey Avenue. Norridge, IL 60706, Phone: 708-457-0966, Fax: 708-457-0966. Email: mbröst@cin.net <http://www.chicagofmclub.org>

September 14-15, 2007. W9DXCC CONVENTION, Holiday Inn, 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove Village, IL. Northern Illinois DX Association. Talk-In: 147.36. Contact: Bill Smith, W9VA, 1345 Linden Avenue, Deerfield, IL 60015, Phone: 847-945-1564, Fax: 847-945-6554. Email: w9va@aol.com <http://www.w9dxcc.com>

15-16 Sep 2007. Peoria Superfest 2007, Exposition Gardens, 1601 West Northmoor Road, Peoria, IL. Peoria Area ARC, Talk-In: 147.075+ (PL 103.5). Contact: John Coker, N9FAM, 133 Vonachen Court, East Peoria, IL 61611-1578, Phone: 309-369-7428. Email: n9fam@insightbb.com <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at bsss.org or at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html> If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address on page 2 or to k9en@arrl.net

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly) \$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to kb9csw@arrl.net Dave Spearing, KB9CSW

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the

events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

**Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>**



Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:00PM., Goodwill
Community Center, 1800 S. Appleton Road,
Menasha, WI. Information: Brian Long
KB9LRD fcarc@w9zl.org Website: <http://www.fcarc.us>

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION
SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page:
<http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column else-
where in this issue for meeting times and loca-
tions. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m.
at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road.
The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web:
<http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or
questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire
Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau
Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests wel-
come. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone
110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA,
President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI
54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email
kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park
Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7
p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA re-
peater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack
Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email:
kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
second Thursday monthly except June to Au-
gust, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in
Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday
evening at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8
on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Paul Marowsky,
KD9PM, 920-674-4968., or John Satterlee,
WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton
Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday
of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipur-
pose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton,
Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meet-
ings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Ser-
vices area of J. M. Science Building at St. Nor-
bert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at
kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings:
Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town
Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Houghton, MI area:
The CCRAA is the "Copper Country Radio
Amateur Association" and they hold meetings
the first Tuesday of each month at the Dollar
Bay Fire Hall. Summer meetings (June, July,
August, and September) are held at the CCRAA
Clubhouse in Osceola (2 mi. S. of Calumet, MI)

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County
Emergency Government Center, Carmichael
Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30
p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz.
All are welcome!

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First
Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Admini-
stration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau,
WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30
p.m., Saturdays, 7278 KHZ, Alternate in 3.947
at 10:00 AM. & Wednesday, 1908 KHZ 8:00
PM, Wintertime.

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER
No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison cam-
pus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the
U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station,
N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG,
President, (608) 263-4685. Email:
n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Uni-
versity of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meet-
ings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union
South. Room number posted on the Today in
The Union board. Information: Don Michalski,
W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email:
w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every
fourth Tuesday of each month; see <http://madisondxclub> for more details.

Madison
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross
Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C,
downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms
State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMA-
TEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of
each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and
Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleet-
wood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop build-
ing on northwest side of city.) For Additional

information please see our club web-site
www.qsl.net/w9dk or contact Fred Neuenfeldt,
W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email:
w6bsf@arrl.net.

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second
Thursday 7:00PM each month BAMC Tenth
Avenue Menominee Michigan in the basement.
Guests welcome e-mail secretary
kg9ad@arrl.net

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meet-
ings: Normally the first Thursday of each
month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meet-
ings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse.
Directions: Those attending should park in the
main courthouse parking lot on the east side of
the building, and enter using the main court-
house entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance.
Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse
using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the
"break room" on the lower level, near the Emer-
gency Government office. Talk-in on the 147.15
repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and
146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoen-
fuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI
54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One build-
ing in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting
time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main
Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at
7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north
of Wal-Mart on highway 25 North, in January,
March, April, and September through Novem-
ber. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30
p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary
Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email:
garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB
Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemp-
tion Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair
Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O.
Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Web:
<http://www.qsl.net/mrac> . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette;
August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green
Bay. For specific information about meetings,
check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdxa/>. Contact
us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion
Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In
March and October the meetings are turned into
Auction Nights.. The club WEB site is
www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Tuesdays, Seven Bridges Res-
taurant, 910 2nd Ave N (hwy 35), Onalaska. We
meet for dinner at 6:00 PM and start the meeting
at 7:00 PM. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc/>. Email: wr9arc@qsl.net.

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin
Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in Janu-
ary, March, May, July, September, and Novem-
ber, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant,
Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in
February, April, June, August, and October.
Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday
in December.

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55
meets the first Saturday of June and October.
For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron
Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washing-
ton Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-
1774. <mailto:rryokes@execpc.com>.

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July,
October. American Red Cross Building, 4521
Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings:
Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red
Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Rhineland
NORTHWOODS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Tuesday of Sept., Nov., Dec.,
Feb., and April for dinner business meetings at
Ella's Restaurant, Jct. of Hwy. 51 and 70, north
side of Woodruff, WI. Talkin on Sayner or
Tomahawk repeaters. The Northwoods ARC
News is on the club web site. <http://www.freeyellow.com/members7/nwarc>.

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m.,
Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Build-
ing, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
Northland ARC meetings are held the first Sat-
urday of each month after breakfast. Location:
Schmitz's Economart Deli. Located on US
Hwy.63 on the south end of Spooner. The meet-
ing will start at approx. 8:00 AM. Breakfast
usually starts by 7:30 AM. Come and see what
we're about. Anyone, even if you're licensed or
not and has an interest in ham radio is welcome
to attend! Next Meeting: Sept 4th, 2004 at 8:00
AM. So Please plan to attend!!!! <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second
Wednesday. of each month at 7:30 pm. Science
(Continued on page 9)

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	LOCAL	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1200	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2315	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3555	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3555	0030	1830	N9JIY
WIN/E	YES	3555	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3555	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	2330	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	03245	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3997.5	0000	1800	N9VAO
(Sundays)					

ATTENTION!

All of the Wisconsin Section CW Nets are moving to 3555 KHz. due to recent FCC action. WIN/E and WIN/L will move Sunday, Oct. 22, at 7 and 10 p.m. The Wisconsin Novice will follow starting Monday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. The Wisconsin Slow Speed Net will shift operation to 3555 on

Nov. 1 at 6:30 p.m. We hope everyone can join us on 3555 KHz.

73, Denny, K9LGU
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager
k9lgu@arrl.net

Wisconsin Section STM Report

STM Report Wisconsin Section September, 2006

FAQ #60 – How do the Wisconsin Section Nets connect? Let’s see. The SSB bone connected to the CW bone, the CW bone connected to the. . . Oh, sorry, the way it works is smooth, but not quite so musical.

Traffic from local nets can be brought to any section net. If, for example, a message for MA is brought to the BEN, it could be taken to the Daytime Ninth Region Net (although currently it doesn’t meet for lack of a Net Manager) or to the next section net – the Wisconsin Side Band Net.

From the WSBN, the WIN (Wisconsin **Intra**-state Net) rep would take the traffic to WIN where a Ninth Region rep would take the message to 9RN. From 9RN, the message would go to the Central Area Net (CAN) and from there to the Eastern Area Net (EAN) and then to the appropriate MA section net.

If a message for Green Bay starts in California, it will be routed from PAN to CAN to 9RN. A 9RN rep will bring it to Late WIN. If it can’t be handled to the destination on WIN/L, it should be taken by an SSB rep to the BWN or BEN. If it can’t be passed there, it should be taken to the next section net, the WSBN. From the WSBN, to the WNN,

(Continued on page 7)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsss.org>

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY

September 2006

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1918	2803	4638	30	W9IXG
BEN	531	39	1011	30	KE9VU
WSBN	679	50	1062	30	K9FHI
WNN	141	15	304	26	KB9ROB
WSSN	134	16	253	26	N9JIY
WIN/E	134	25	214	26	WB9ICH
WIN/L	149	28	282	30	W9UW
WRACES	77	0	202	4	N9VAO
totals	3763	2976	7966	202	

October 2006

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	2052	2875	4794	31	W9IXG
BEN	579	74	1235	32	KE9VU
WSBN	745	74	1141	31	K9FHI
WNN	159	18	325	28	KB9ROB
WSSN	170	27	297	28	N9JIY
WIN/E	158	34	259	27	WB9ICH
WIN/L	132	38	299	31	W9UW
WRACES	148	29	510	6	N9VAO
totals	4143	3169	8860	214	

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY

September 2006

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	38	595	570	4	1207 –BPL
WZ9I	16	499	16	499	1030 –BPL
KB9KEG	0	241	60	241	542 – BPL
K9LGU	0	45	34	1	80
AG9G	0	20	60	0	80
W9BHL	0	20	52	0	72
K9FHI	0	15	27	0	42
W9KKM	0	7	31	0	38
K9JPS	0	0	31	0	31
N9NNN	0	0	31	0	31
KB9ROB	0	24	4	2	30
KE9VU	0	23	4	0	27
W9UW	0	19	5	1	25
KG9B	0	0	20	0	20
K9GU	0	0	18	0	18
KA9BHK	0	0	16	1	17
KN9P	0	8	8	0	16
WB9ICH	0	12	2	0	14
W9RSX 0	0	13	0	13	
K9WIS	0	0	5	0	5
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

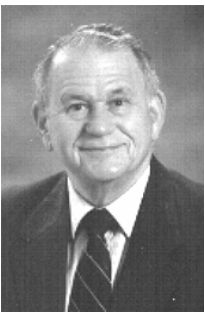
October 2006

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	42	581	562	5	1190
WZ9I	20	505	19	503	1047
K9LGU	0	58	42	0	100
AG9G	0	9	63	0	72
W9BHL	0	29	27	0	56
K9FHI	0	20	28	0	48

(Continued on page 7)

The Computer Corner

by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
715 N. Dries Street
Saukville, WI 53080-1664
(262) 268-1949
skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 133. My Favorites

This is not an article about My Favorites in Internet Explorer. Rather, it is about Stan's favorites – good websites that I have come across and made part of my personal bookmark repertoire.

Where do you go to get new programs? Some people just buy them in a store for safety. Everyone knows programs you buy in a store are safe – no spyware or viruses, correct? Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! Even Microsoft's stuff has been infected in past years. Moreover, there are lots of programmers out there that have written software themselves to solve one or another of their own problems, and they sometimes happily share them with others, free! So, all you need is a safe site, where you can peruse freeware and shareware to see if something will work to solve your problems, too.

My absolute favorite website for this was mentioned briefly in #132. Major Geeks (www.majorgeeks.com) is a no-nonsense, well-organized, safe place to peruse and download the latest and greatest. They clearly label shareware (and the cost) and freeware. They also test all files for spyware, trojans and viruses. Furthermore, they test all files for quality – checking to see if the programs do what is claimed. That doesn't mean that every program you get there is wonderful – just that it will more or less do what it says it will do and it will not contain any malware. Updated and organized daily, this site is the best I have come across. I routinely check it once a day for new stuff. But that is not all.

When you have this site on your screen, look at the Info section on the right panel. Click on Top Freeware Picks. There you will find the best of the freeware, organized in handy lists – antivirus, antispyware, rootkit detectors, firewalls and so on, three or four programs in each category. Although they don't explicitly say so, I believe they are listed in quality order. For example, nothing in the world currently beats Zone Alarm for firewall software, and it is first in their list.

One of the more recent additions to this site is the Auslogics Disk Defragmenter. This handy utility beats the defragmenter that comes with Windows hands down! It is F A A S T! So fast, that it makes a quick defrag job a pleasure. While it does not reorder the sequence of files on your disk, it does the really important job (defragmenting all files) really quickly, thus it keeps your machine humming at top speed. Everyone should have a copy of this program, and should use it at least every couple of days. A wonderful freebie! Anyway, be sure to explore majorgeeks.com – it is well worth your while.

If you are really into freeware, explore Last Freeware Files (www.321download.com/lastfreeware/index.html). This site lists lots of great freeware that has since become either shareware or pay-for software. While these are largely older versions, many still do the job just fine and may solve a problem at no cost to you.

One of my favorite electronics sites is at www.freebyte.com/electronics. You can find printed circuit board and circuit design stuff, pinouts and data sheets for integrated circuits, parts sources, electronics tutorials and much more. This is a fun site to peruse. I bet you will find something interesting to download here!

Like to homebrew? Harry's Homebrew Homepage (http://web.telia.com/~U85920178/) contains lots of circuits and projects, and links, too!

Have you received notice from a friend that a new virus has hit the web? Something like "don't open any emails from "lotteryresults.com" or your computer will go up in smoke? Check it out with Symantec (Norton Antivirus) at www.symantec.com/enterprise/security_response/threatexplorer/risks/hoaxes.jsp to see if it is a hoax. Chances are, it is.

If you are an ARES/RACES member with an upcoming public health/hospital exercise on bioterrorism involving anthrax, where do you go for basic medical information? The best source is our own Center for Disease Control (http://

www.bt.cdc.gov/), where you can find everything you wanted to know about this and other diseases, as well as other types of threats. Bookmark this one!

Putting up antennas? Go to http://www.ocarc.ca/coax.htm to check feed line loss. An on-screen calculator will show you that 100' of Radio Shack (Tandy) RG58 will transfer only 16 watts of power out for 50 watts of power in at 146 MHz, for a 1:1 SWR. This will drop to 14 watts for a 2:1 SWR, and 12 watts for a 3:1 SWR. Handy, Tandy!

Need a driver for a device hooked up to your computer? (Device drivers are little software programs that let your computer's Operating System talk to a device and vice versa, in a way they can both understand). Or, do you just want to check if there are any new ones for your machine? Go to http://www.driversguide.com. Log in with the name: **driver** and the password: **all** to let you get started. This is great site to solve software problems, and probably contains the largest database of stuff, anywhere.

Thinking of upgrading? My lady Nancy (KC9FZK) reminds me that QRZ (www.QRZ.com/p/testing.pl) has up-to-date practice exams for all levels of ham radio. She upgraded to General in Jan '06 on the first try after using this site to get

her ready (along with readings). Her next goal is to upgrade to Extra this winter.

Probably the most important site you should visit regularly is Microsoft's Windows Update (unless you already have your machine set for automatic updates). No matter what version of Windows you use, it is vitally important for you to at least keep your machine safe with the latest security updates. This site will also occasionally provide you with a new device driver, specifically for your machine, as a bonus. Simply click Start, Windows Update to get there. The first time you do it, check **Express** to look for high priority updates you need, and watch the pretty green squares crawling across your screen while the software checks your machine. By all means, let it download and install any updates it finds! When you check next (a week or two later), check **Custom**. That will look for any possible device drivers that need updating, as well as the critical updates. Hey, I am not fond of Microsoft, but this site is necessary, safe and is done very, very well. Microsoft knows that the site has to be good or many people would not use it, and they do want folks to keep their systems updated and safe.

Do that majorgeeks.com site. You will be pleased. Happy computing!

WISCONSINSECTION MANAGER REPORT

OCTOBER 2006

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, SGL: AD9X, OOC: KC9IS, PIC: KB9NUM, TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ACC: N9LVS ASM: K9UTQ, W9DGI, N9VE.

** With regret, I am informing you of the passing of the following Amateurs:
-- David Marx, NG9C, age 43.
-- Robert Perthel, W9MWD, age 86.
-- Keith Swenson, WB9JXT, age 63.

** ARRL requests members' input on recent FCC "omnibus" Report and Order (Oct 13, 2006) -- The ARRL is requesting members' input concerning the FCC's

Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, released on October 10. The Report and Order will not take effect until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This publication date is not yet known. The complete text is available for viewing as a PDF file on the FCC Web site. A summary is available on this Web site. The ARRL is specifically seeking member guidance on how the changes will affect current operating activities on 80, 40 and 15 meters (see the current ARRL band plans and an ARRL FAQ that includes a chart showing the band changes.) Comments may be submitted by e-mail [bandplan@www.arrl.org]. All e-mails will be read and considered, but individual responses will not be possible due to the

(Continued on page 6)

Check us out on the web at
Http://www.bs5s.org

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

(Continued from page 5)

message volume expected. The deadline for comments is October 31.

** The Badger Weather Net held its banquet in Wausau and many Wisconsin members and their spouses attended to hear from the National Weather Service representatives from Sullivan and Green Bay on how much they appreciate the daily 24 hour "Ground Truth" data from each station. It is nice to provide a valuable service. Congratulations! More members are welcome to join this 75 meter morning net. Contact me for more details.

** There is a new club on Washington Island-- The Washington Island DX Club, WI9DX. The Club was formed in 2006 to actively DX and Contest. Founding Members George Ulm, W9EVT, Mac Reynolds, W9EVI, and Steve Weinert, K9ZW, invite your participation in the club. <http://www.greengate-wibb.com/HamRadio.html> Contact Club Trustee, K9ZW, k9zw@arrl.net

** Richard Polivka, N6NKO, will be giving a talk on ARES-RACES systems at the Juneau County ARC November 8 meeting in the Mauston City Hall at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend! Contact: jcaresracesinc@yahoo.com

** The Fond du Lac ARC ARES/RACES Team was called to participate in the Hazmat Drill. Just over 40% of the Team reported "Ready to Serve" for the drill. The Red Cross personnel were very pleased with the performance during the drill.

** The eighth annual Wisconsin ARES/RACES conference will be held in Madison on October 28 at the Wisconsin Emergency Management building. Anyone interested in ARES/RACES is invited to attend. Registration is required by October 21 via the web <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/2006confreg.htm> or email Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, at bnienmuth@new.rr.com

** The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association will be holding a Technician Level Licensing Workshop on October 21st & 22nd: The WVRA is again sponsoring this licensing workshop for indi-

viduals interested in obtaining their operating license. Contact Jerry Graebel, W9GLG, w9glg@arrl.net. If anyone wishes to post their classes on the ARRL Wisconsin website, www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI just drop me a note to w9ixg@arrl.org and I will add it to the list.

** JOTA 2006 is coming up on October 21, 22! JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. We hope that you will be able to participate. More details are available at these sites: www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jota.html and www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/ideas.html

** The M&M ARC reports that the DAR radio room has received a grant from the M&M Community Foundation in the amount of \$1210. The club hopes to use the funds for an upgrade to the HF equipment. The radio project is a joint venture between the Menominee, MI Boys/Girls Club and the M&M Amateur Radio Club. Ed, KG8CX, and Jim, KS8O, are two of the leaders working with the kids. Some photos are on the Wisconsin Section site: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI> Keep up the great work!!

** I will be at the Fox Cities ARC Swapfest on November 5. <http://www.w9zl.org/> At this event you may join or renew your ARRL membership and get a free 2006-2007 Repeater Directory! We hope to see you there!!
73, Don W9IXG

NOVEMBER 2006

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSNB 3985 1715-1800 K9FHL WNN 3555 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3555 1830 N9JIY. WIN-E 3555 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3555 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central time)

** New Band Plan color chart is available for download at the following site: https://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf I will, also, have these available at the ARRL table at ham-fests. Remember, this is not yet in effect!

Check us out on the web at <http://www.bs3s.org>

** The Rib Mountain Repeater Association bestowed upon Lew Sheerar, K9JPS, RMRA's First Honorary Lifetime Member! In addition, Lew was presented by K9DB a letter from Governor Doyle. In the letter, he states, in part-- "I, also, want to thank you for service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin through your actions and example as a volunteer, a leader, and a mentor in this important hobby of Amateur Radio. Your past leadership and your continued participation in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the Badger Weather Net serves as an inspiration to future generations of Amateur Radio operators." Congratulations, Lew!!

** Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club operating the 2006 Field Day as 4A plus GOTA took First Place in the Central Division and Wisconsin!! The following hams operated the full 24 Hours of this emergency communications exercise: KB9S - W0AIH - KI9H - W9AVM - KB9WPC - KB9OBF - KA9HWN. Congratulations!!

** SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 2

The 8th annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) special event will take place Saturday, December 2, 2006. SKYWARN Recognition Day is an event co-sponsored by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League, and it is the National Weather Service's way of saying "thank you" to Amateur Radio operators for their commitment to helping keep their communities safe. During the 24-hour special event, amateur radio operators will visit their local National Weather Service (NWS) office, set up Amateur Radio stations, and work as a team to contact other hams across the world.

"Ham radio operators volunteering as storm spotters are an extremely valuable asset to National Weather Service operations since they are cross-trained in both communications and severe storm recognition", says Scott Mentzer (N ***QE), organizer of the event and Meteorologist-In-Charge at the NWS office in Goodland, Kansas.

In typical warning operations, it is the direct communication between mobile spotters and the local NWS office which provides vital ground truth information. Spotter reports of hail size, wind damage and surface-based rotation in real time greatly assists the radar warning operator since that information can be correlated with Doppler radar displays. The result can range anywhere from a more strongly-

worded statement to convey a greater sense of urgency, or the issuance of a tornado warning a few minutes earlier than would otherwise have been possible.

While National Weather Service offices utilize the real-time reporting of severe weather events to assist in warning operations, hurricanes and tropical storms have shown us that ham radio operators are equally important during the recovery phase of natural disasters. There are countless stories where ham radio worked in tandem with more conventional technology to relay emergency traffic.

Details of the Event:

SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held from on December 2, 2006, from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC.

The object is for all radio amateur stations to exchange QSO information with as many National Weather Service Stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meter bands plus the 70 centimeter band. Contacts via repeaters are permitted. The exchange should include call sign, signal report, location, and a one or two word description of the weather occurring at your site ("sunny", "partly cloudy", "windy", etc.). NWS stations will work various modes including SSB, FM, AM, RTTY, CW, and PSK31. While working digital modes, special event stations will append "NWS" to their call sign (e.g., N0A/ NWS). The National Weather Service will provide event information via the Internet. Event certificates may be requested from:

SKYWARN Recognition Day
920 Armory Road,
Goodland, KS 67735

Simply enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with a list of NWS stations worked. The certificate size is 8.5 x 11 inches. Separate NWS stations will also issue individual QSL cards. See the Web page for a list. To learn more, check out the Web site: <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>.

** We enjoyed attending the FCARC Hamfest. John Ensley, N9RJZ, et al, worked hard and made good use of the ARRL services to promote the Hamfest to local hams and it paid off in spades. Contact me for more information on how to keep your Hamfest turnstiles spinning!!
73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section
Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG
w9ixg@arrl.org

Wisconsin Section STM Report

(Continued from page 4)

WSSN, and WIN/E. This way, as many potential handlers as possible hear the listing. So what’s the connection? See it? It’s the liaison stations. The 9RN reps, the WIN reps, the SSB reps, the volunteers that take traffic from net to net. Their net work is what makes it a network. 73 – K9LGU/ STM-WI

October 2006

FAQ #61 – Where can I get training for traffic handling and net operation? Everyone can learn something new. Whether you’re a technician, general, or extra, there’s always a trick in message handling or a technique in being an NCS that might be new to you. So what’s a good source for learning about these important aspects of Ham radio? The adage, “One learns to do by doing,” is applicable here. Doing a bit of traffic handling on local ARES nets, listening or participating in the Badger Weather Net, Badger Emergency Net or

the Wisconsin Sideband Net, or checking in to the Wisconsin Novice Net, Wisconsin Slow Speed Net, or either session of the Wisconsin Intrastate Net would be great practice. There are also some good resources off the air. The ARRL web site has a lot of practical help – especially in the *Public Service Communications Manual*, the *National Traffic System Methods and Practices*, and an interesting pdf entitled “Traffic Handling and Amateur Radio.” These are all readily accessible just by searching “traffic handling” on ARRL’s web page. Another good source is the Wisconsin page of the ARRL web site. If you scroll down the page, you’ll see a number of links to traffic-handling topics – sending traffic, being net control, etc. Try one. Your EC can get a copy of a traffic handling PowerPoint from W9REL or K9LGU for discussion at a local meeting. Or you can schedule K9LGU for a *live* (at least as live as he gets) presentation on traffic handling. 73 – K9LGU/STM

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

(Continued from page 4)

W9KKM	0	2	36	2	40
W9UW	0	24	11	1	36
KB9ROB	0	26	4	4	34
KE9VU	0	29	2	0	31
K9JPS	0	0	31	0	31
K9GU	0	0	27	0	27
AA9BB	0	0	22	0	22
WB9ICH	0	17	2	0	19
W9RSX	0	2	15	1	18
N9NNN	0	1	16	0	17
KG9B	0	0	14	0	14
WD9FLJ	4	0	4	0	8
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

PSHR SUMMARY
September 2006

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	20	295	0	10	405
K9FHI	40	40	30	0	5	20	135
K9LGU	40	40	30	15	0	0	125
AG9G	40	40	10	20	0	0	110
W9RSX	40	13	10	0	0	0	63

October 2006

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
W9RSX	40	18	10	0	0	0	68
WD9FLJ	40	8	10	40	0	0	98
K9FHI	40	40	30	5	5	10	130
AG9G	40	40	10	40	0	0	130
K9LGU	40	40	30	65	0	0	175

ARLB019 FCC releases long-awaited "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order

(Continued from page 1)

other miscellaneous actions.

In "refarming" the frequencies currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees, the Commission increased the voice segments for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees.

On 75 meters, Generals will be able to use voice from 3800-4000 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz. Advanced class licensees will be able to use voice from 3700-4000, an increase of 75 kHz, and Amateur Extras will be able to use voice from 3600 to 4000 kHz, a generous increase of 150 kHz.

On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to use voice from 7125-7300 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz. General class licensees will be able to use voice on 7175-7300 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz.

On 15 meters, General class operators will have phone privileges on 21275-21450 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the ARRL's gratitude to the FCC Commissioners in a letter dated October 11: "On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules. The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The changes will go into effect 30 days after the R&O is published in the Federal Register.

NNNN

Amateur Radio "Omnibus" Rules changes to go into effect December 15

(Continued from page 1)

widths greater than 500 Hz), 1200-baud packet, Q15X25 and Clover 2000.

* The elimination of access to the automatic control RTTY/data subband at 3620-3635 kHz.

The ARRL Board is discussing the possibility of a petition to reconsider several items in the R&O.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, commented: "The release of the R&O in the Federal Register has started the countdown clock. We are all looking forward to being able to use the refarmed frequencies starting on December 15. We are still anx-

iously awaiting the release of the Report and Order for 05-235, the Morse Code Proceeding. We are hopeful that the Commission will be able to move on that petition and address the outstanding issues in the Omnibus R&O soon."

For more information, see the band chart <http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf> and the Frequently Asked Questions on WT Docket No. 04-140 <<http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>>. Both have been updated to reflect the R&O as it was published in the Federal Register.

From The ARRL Letter 11/17/2006

(Continued from page 11)

You can make sense of "upnort" and

"batree".

Every wedding dance you have ever been to has the hokey pokey and the chicken dance. Your definition of a small town is one that only has one bar.

The local gas station sells live bait.

At least twice a year some part of your

home doubles as a meat processing plant.

You think that the start of deer season is a national holiday.

Pop is the only name for soda.

You actually understand these jokes and will forward them to all your Wisconsin friends!!!!

Compiled by Wayne Lambert

Badger State Smoke Signals
Kenneth A. Ebnetter
822 Wauona Trail
Portage, WI 53901
(608) 742-3560
k9en@arrrl.net

73 ken k9en

**Send this form, with check or money order to:
Ken Ebnetter, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.
Please do NOT send cash.**

CLUB MEETINGS

(Continued from page 3)

Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.ql.net/wb9qfw.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Secondary Technical Center. The address is: 802 East Central Entrance - Duluth, MN 55811. The board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State in March, July and November. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

Waupaca
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600). <http://home.dwave.net/~wvra/>.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

December 02, 2006	Madison, WI
December 02, 2006	Racine, WI
December 02, 2006	St. Paul, MN
December 02, 2006	Wausau, WI
December 03, 2006	Marshfield, WI
December 09, 2006	Fond du Lac, WI
December 09, 2006	Blaine, MN
December 09, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 16, 2006	Rockford, IL
December 21, 2006	Iron River, MI
December 30, 2006	Bloomington, MN
January 06, 2007	Waukesha, WI
January 06, 2007	Madison, WI
January 06, 2007	St. Paul, MN
January 07, 2007	Merrill, WI
January 10, 2007.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
January 11, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
January 13, 2007	Eau Claire, WI
January 13, 2007	Blaine, MN
January 13, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
January 18, 2007	Iron River, MI
January 20, 2007	Rockford, IL
January 27, 2007	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
January 27, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
February 03, 2007	Madison, WI
February 03, 2007	St. Paul, MN
February 08, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
February 10, 2007	Blaine, MN
February 11, 2007	Appleton, WI
February 14, 2007.	Tomahawk, WI
February 15, 2007	Iron River, MI
February 17, 2007	Rockford, IL
February 24, 2007.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 03, 2007	Madison, WI
March 03, 2007	St. Paul, MN
March 04, 2007	Marshfield, WI
March 08,2007	Apple Valley, MN
March 10, 2007	Blaine, MN
March 10, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 16, 2007	Iron River, MI
March 24, 2007	Rockford, IL
March 31, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
April 07, 2007	Madison, WI
April 07, 2007	St. Paul, MN
April 12, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
April 14, 2007	Blaine, MN
April 14, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 19, 2007	Iron River, MI
April 21, 2007	Rockford, IL
April 28, 2007	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 28, 2007	Tomahawk, WI

Monthly, 1st Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Thu.	Iron River, MI
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Rockford, IL
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(Except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EX-

AMINATIONS: Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
or
<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2006 test fee at \$14.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Adams, WI
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Appleton, WI
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2nd Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Houghton MI
Sponsor: HARC/CCRAA. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: George R Thurner home phone, (906)337-2542, cell phone (906) 369-2542 Email: W8FWG@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: Michigan Tech University-US Hwy 41. Wadsworth Residence Hall, East End of Campus, G04w (Downstairs/Turn Left), Houghton, MI 49931

Iron Mountain, MI
Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Allowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906)774-6598. VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI.
Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: dmwaters@ironriver.tv VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mc Donald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI 49935

La Crosse, WI (ARRL/VEC).
Sponsor: Riverland ARC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Roger C. Reader, (608)783-0723. Email: readers@centurytel.net VEC: Location: American Red Cross office, 2927 Losey Blvd, La Crosse, WI 54601

Madison, WI
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month. Holidays included. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we hope to have all



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Joel Papke, N9BQM, Treasurer
7968 Ubinger Road, Pittsville, WI 54466-9214

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@tds.net

No news from WAPR this issue. Watch for more next month.

THE TEST POINT

(Continued from page 9)
exams completed and graded by 10:00 AM.

Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCEs, and a check for \$12.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

Marshfield, WI
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact Lee A. Olson, (715) 389-8888.

Menomonie, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Sponsored by the Dunn County Area Amateurs Location: University of Wisconsin, 121 10th Avenue, UW Stout Millennium Hall, NW Entrance, Menomonie, WI 54751. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: James L. Guenther, (715)232-2625. Email: guentherj@uwstrout.edu

Menominee, MI
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Merrill, WI
Merrill Amateur Radio Group. 3:15 p.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Myron J. Oestreich (715) 355-6902 e-mail: kb9stb@margdx Location: Gail's Place, n4090 Cth. K, Lincoln Center Banquet Hall.

Milwaukee, WI
The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club VEC holds test sessions on the last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test for one morning during the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. All sessions except WARAC swapfest are held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 at Amateur Electronic Supply, 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee. Watch for signs directing you to the session room. West Allis RAC Swapfest session is held at AMF lanes across the street from the Waukesha Expo. We usually start earlier; contact VEC for more info.

Bring along your original license or CSCE (if any), and one good quality photocopy of each, plus a form of identification (driver's license is fine). Exam fee is \$5.00; walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Tom Fuszard at 262-789-7975 or tom@supremecom.biz.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: n8gba@chartermi.net VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Onalaska, WI
Sponsor: Riverland ARC, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Roger C. Reader, (608)783-0723. Email: readers@centurytel.net. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Onalaska Public Library. 741 Oak Ave S. Onalaska, WI 54650

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Portage, WI

ARRL/VEC Amateur testing on Oct. 21st 2006. Testing will begin at 10:30 AM at the Portage Public Library 253 w. Edgewater St. Portage, WI. For more information contact Brian Smith, KG9OG at 608-742-4562 or Ed Wagner, AB9FN at ab9fn@yahoo.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

Racine, WI
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to smedegaa@wi.net

Rockford, IL
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, W9HL@ARRL.NET (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road k9xj@arrl.net Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Tomahawk, WI
Tomahawk Repeater Association ARRL/VEC team. Last Saturday of every month January thru October. Registration at 8:30, testing at 9:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk. Contact Diane Lodge Hamman, KA9BHK, 145.43 MHz or telephone 715 453-3908.

St. Paul, MN
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month. Site: Roseville City

Hall, 2660 County Road C, NW Corner County Road. C & Lexington Ave., Roseville MN 55101. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)Contact: David M Buending, (9 5 2) 4 8 6 - 0 8 3 6 , E m a i l : AD2B@ARRL.NET, VEC: ARRL/VEC.

Washington Island, WI
Contact: John W. Van Sandt, (217) 826-8821. n9yrx@hotmail.com

Waukesha, WI (Milwaukee VEC)
Sponsor: West Allis Radio Club Swapfest, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed. Contact: John G. Kraak, (262)548-9585. Email: jkraak@wi.rr.com. Location: AMF Waukesha Lanes, across from Waukesha EXPO, Waukesha, WI 53186

Wausau, WI.
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 8:00 Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 42-9542 Email: VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Martech Systems, 614 N. 3rd Ave, Wausau, WI 54401. Parking in rear of building.

Montenegro is newest ARRL DXCC

NEW DXCC ADDITIONS

entity


SB DX ARL ARLD026

ARLD026 Montenegro is newest ARRL DXCC entity

A new ARRL DXCC entity has come into being! As expected, the United Nations admitted the Republic of Montenegro as its 192nd member June 28, and that action automatically makes the tiny Balkan nation the 336th current DXCC entity.


"According to the ARRL DXCC List criteria, entities on the UN list of member-states qualify as political entities," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. "Therefore, effective

(Continued on page 11)



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315
Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, Secretary
108 Scarlet Ct., Reedsburg, WI 53959
YTARC Home Page: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>



**YOU GREW UP IN
RURAL WISCONSIN IF.....**

You know how to polka, but never tried it sober....

You know what knee-high by the Fourth of July means.

You know it is traditional for the bride and groom to go bar hopping between the reception and wedding dance.

You know the difference between "Green" and "Red" farm machinery, and would fight with your friends on the playground over which was better!

You buy Christmas presents at Fleet & Farm or Farm & Fleet.

You spent more on beer & liquor than

you did on food at your wedding.

You hear someone use the word "oof-dah" and you don't break into uncontrollable laughter.

You let your older siblings talk you into putting your tongue on a steel post in the middle of winter.

You know that "creek" rhymes with "pick".

Football schedules, hunting season and harvest are all taken into consideration before wedding dates are set.

A Friday night date is getting a six-pack and taking your girlfriend shining for deer.

You have driven your car on the lake.

(Continued on page 7)

New Quarter Century Wireless Association Chapter

I am sending this message the amateur radio clubs in our area.

One of our club members, Dave Arnold, W8DXX is trying to determine the interest in forming a chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association in the Northeast Wisconsin- Southern Upper Peninsula area. Currently the closest chapters are headquartered in St. Ignace, Michigan and Watertown and Kenosha, Wisconsin. The M&M Amateur Radio club is supporting Dave's efforts.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association is open to all amateurs who were first licensed at least 25 years ago. I'm sure many of your members qualify, and some are probably already members.

Please pass this information on to your club membership. If you have anyone who would be interested in joining an area chapter, please have them contact Dave Arnold, W8DXX at 1801 32nd Avenue, Menominee, MI 49858, or by email at DJARNOLD63@AOL.com .

Thanks and 73,
Jim Callow K8IR
President, M&M ARC
Marinette, WI
Menominee, MI
Member QCWA

From The **LANDLINE**, The Newsletter of the Cooper Country Radio Amateur Association, Inc.

Check us out on the web at <http://www.bsss.org>

West-of-Madison Technology Users' Group

We are planning a group for folks west-of-Madison who are tech enthusiasts and enjoy using tech for diverse purposes including music, art, web design, office apps, programming, home theatre, home automation, in-car computing, etc. We plan to have casual social meetings, technical presentations and "lab" meetings.

please join our Google Group (link below) and voice your preference regarding meeting location, etc.

West-of-Madison Technology Users' Group <<http://groups-beta.google.com/group/westofmadtech>>

Tom Landmann, N9UDL

If you think this sounds interesting,

MY FIRST SATELLITE!

No...I didn't transmit to it...but it came up on my UI-VIEW32 map on Tuesday night about 11 PM EST. It as AO51 Sat/Pacsat traveling at 1149.6 mph, and it was right over Mass City! (Ontonagon Co.) Course f 346 degrees, and it was digi'ed through W7HDO at "yydigi"...out in Washington State! How about hat? That is the highest speed,

that I have seen on a vehicle to date! It was gone (of course) about 15 inutes later...Had I had the transmit freq. in my rig, I could have worked it! Bummer! (signed) "Space Commander" Thurner! Har!

Geo., W8FWG

(Continued from page 10)

NEW DXCC ADDITIONS

June 28, 2006 (UTC), ARRL has added The Republic of Montenegro to the DXCC List. Claims for DXCC credit will be accepted immediately."

Current Montenegrin radio amateurs reportedly may continue using their YU/YT/YZ/4O/4N-prefix call signs until the International Telecommunication Union designates a new call sign block for the new country.

In anticipation of Montenegro's new nation status, the International DX Festival Montenegro, with information on the web at, <http://www.yu6scg.cg.yu/international-dx-festival.html>, has been set for July 20 until August 12. That's when several international operators will join forces with Montenegrin Amateur Radio operators from at least three different stations using a common call sign in an effort to meet the DX community's need to work the newest DXCC Entity. Festival organizers have set the ambitious goal of 200,000 contacts for the event, which will use all HF bands.

Montenegro declared its independence on June 3 following a national referendum May 21.

NNNN

Swain's Island, KH8, added to ARRL DXCC List

SB DX ARL ARLD031

ARLD031 Swain's Island, KH8, added to ARRL DXCC List

With the addition of Section II, Criteria Rule 1c) to the Political Entity criteria, certain former separation entities may now qualify as Political Entities. One such entity has been determined to be American Samoa. American Samoa is now a Political Entity for DXCC purposes.

As a result of the reclassification of American Samoa, and upon the filing of a request and substantiating evidence, and with the concurrence of the DXAC and the Awards Committee, Swain's Island has been added to the DXCC List.

Swain's Island, entity number 337, qualifies as the first separation entity from American Samoa, now a Political Entity. The distance between American Samoa and Swain's Island has been determined to be in excess of 350 km as required by DXCC Rules Section II, Paragraph 2, Section b). QSOs made with Swain's Island on or after 0001z, July 22, 2006 will count for DXCC credit. The prefix is KH8.

For additional information, including the DXCC Reference Number for Swain's Island, contact Bill Moore at the DXCC Desk at dxcc@arrl.org.

NNNN

Buy it! • Sell it • Trade it • Fix it

SWAPFESTS



2004 WINNER
Nicholas Luther, K9NL
Oshkosh, WI.

34th ANNUAL MIDWINTER
SWAPFEST
WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN
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HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!
MADISON SWAPFEST
Mandt Community Center
APRIL 21, 2007
400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI
Doors open at 8 a.m.
Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SWAPFEST 07
JULY 07, 2007
(Held every July)
American Legion Park
Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI
(414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne
P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172
e-mail ryatex@aol.com

Ozaukee Radio Club
HAM RADIO AND
COMPUTER SWAPFEST

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
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W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012

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AUCTION
Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics
Wed. MAR. 07, 2006, 6:00 p.m.
American Legion Post 434
Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI
(414) 762-3235 Ask for
Verne
P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI

Circus City Swapfest
Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club
2007 • 7 am—Noon
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Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables
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Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453
<http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm>,

The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents
AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2007

Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings
For more information, see:
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e-mail mrc@mrc91.org
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Now in stock., EBP-48 NIMH for Alinco; BP-180 NIMH for ICOM; BP-200 NIMH for ICOM;
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OB-202 for Radio Shack; PS-34 NIMH & PB-13 NIMH for Kenwood. EBP-22 NIMH for Alinco;
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ELMER
by Rich Regent, K9GDF

